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SCENE -EMATIC

FEATURING BANDS:

BLIMP : ECHODRONE : AUTUMNWOOD. : SEESAW SEAGULL

Keys Pinzon : 2024 : Scene-ematic

Vol. 1

Blimp

Show & Album Review + interview with Ren Takekawa

Blimp is an alternative shoegaze band based in Los Angeles, forming at the end of 2022. They recently came out with a noise/post-punk album called Egg: released July 1, 2023. Within the same year they toured along side with Rocket as an gopener for Julie. December 1, 2023: in Santa Ana's Observatory, the four band members sifted through the left side of the crowd, and jumped passed the fence that separated the tech from the audience. The crowd was stiff with attention was immediately drawn to the band on stage. Cheryl and Will's back and forth vocals sounded conversational and chaotic. It's their second the last song, and everyone in the crowd was pumped, until someone in the crowed yelled "OPEN UP THE DAMN PIT!"

BAND MEMBERS

Will Glass
guitar & vocals

Cheryl Acuna
bass & vocals

Ren Takekawa
guitar

Lucas Bugbee
drums

I talked with guitarist Ren Takekawa to understand their creative process

What was the band's inspiration?

Ren: **Most of our inspiration comes from an assortment of literature – namely suskind, kierkegaard, steiner, goethe, morkheimer, and others**

That's sick! It's interesting seeing how you guys turn to literature for inspiration. It really reflects in your lyrics, as well as the delivery of it. Following up with a similar question, what was the process of making egg?

Ren: **In terms of the recording process for Egg, we really admire Unwound and the 90s alt scene in the pacific north west. We recorded with steve fisk specifically for this reason. He'll always hold a special place in my heart.**

The Pacific Northwest's alt scene is insane. Historically rich and the birthplace of grunge for sure! One last question for you Ren, what drew you to make music?

Ren: **i don't feel i have much of a choice but to make music. it's a need for me; i've tried other paths but i keep coming back to music because it's all that fulfills me.**

Synth Drums + Keybord

Her favorite animal is a bunny. She likes to gossip with CG's brother and she works at a well known smoothie chain store

(jumbo juice…)

Guitar **CG**

His favorite fruits are oranges and green grapes.

And he babysits Kit

MEET THE MILK BROTHERS

Vision (Viz) Bass + Vocals

His bass can come to life

Vocals **Kit**

Some kid that CG is supposed to baby sit.

THE SOUND OF MILK

Joey and Nathan were friends back in college, sharing their love for music. It was after they graduated that they met Ben and Alex, and finally decided to start a band together!

Joey - Vocals + Guitars
Nathan - Vocals + Keyboard
Ben - drums
Alex - Bass

STARFISH PRIME's sets engage with their crowd. It's amazing to see the passion in how they play the songs.

/Autumnwood./

Based in Perris– California, vocalist and songwriter Carlton started Autumnwood in 2021. He draws inspiration from bands such as Her's, The Garden, and Car seat Headrest when creating his music. It wasn't until 2023 where Carlton began to be more serious in his music. I was introduced to Autumnwood. back in October 25, 2023.

Introduce yourself!

Carlton: Hii i'm Carlton. I'm the vocalist and writer for autumnwood. autumnwood.

What drew you to make music?

I was always a musical person, even doing city talent shows when I was 10 and joining my high school marching band. I started wanting to make music in 2020 after seeing a video called "how mac demarco became the king of indie" and i thought to myself, this is what i wanna do, i wanna be on top of music.

Do you guys have any other interest/hobbies? And do they intertwine/influence the way you play/make music?

My other interests and hobbies are photography and art! I take and edit all of our photoshoots, and edit all of our show photos taken by photographers. i also make most of the flyers for our shows, and our (unreleased) merch designs as well :P

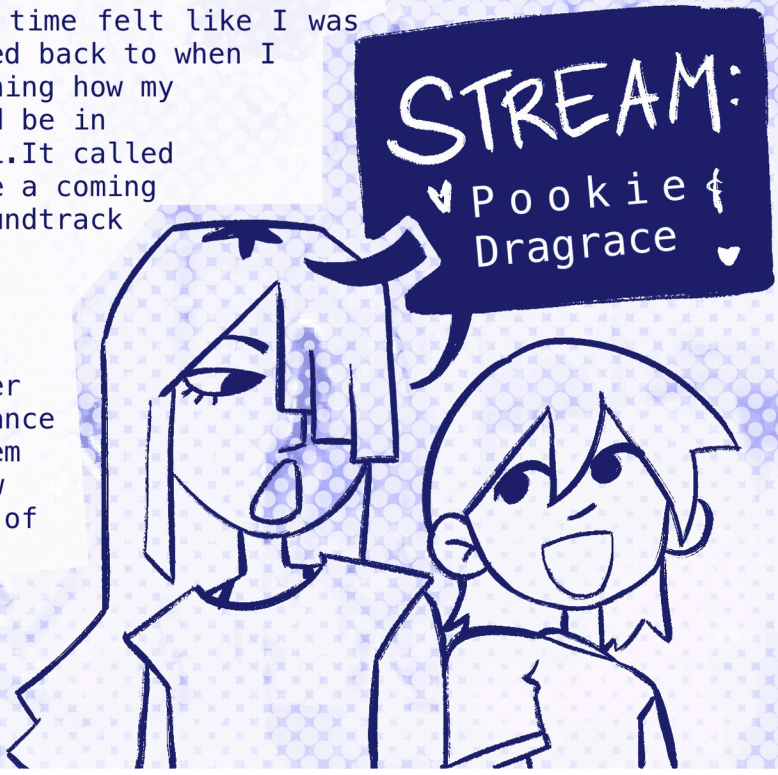
How do you tackle ruts/creative roadblocks?

I tend to my other hobbies and explore there, or i just take a break from art as a whole for a short while, whether a couple days or a week, i find myself using this time to stir new ideas, let old ones resurface in brighter, more me tones, and to see what i was limiting myself to before and seeing outside the box.

insta: @autumnwoodmusic

Keys Review:
Listening to autumnwood. for the first time felt like I was transported back to when I was imagining how my life would be in highschool.It called to me like a coming of age soundtrack for the yearning youth.

If you ever have a chance to see them live, show them tons of love !!



ECHODRONE

Get to know the band - an interview

About Echodrone

Echodrone:originally starting off in San Francisco, has moved on to being an remote band within the past 10 years. The band consisting of Eugene Suh, Brandon Dudley, Andy Heyer, and Mike Funk. The following interview gives us insight to Suh, Heyer, and Dudley's personal experiences, interests, and the making of their EP Past, Preset, and Future.

Meet the Members!

Eugene Suh: Guitar, piano/synth, vocals

Brandon Dudley: Bass Playing, associated noises

Andy Heyer: Drums

Mike Funk: Synths, Electronics, Drums

Q: What was the inspiration behind Past, Preset, and Future?
E: Around the time that we were finishing our album, Five, I stumbled upon an article that said the perfect length for a pop song is 3:30. Echodrone had typically written fairly long songs on previous albums, so I was curious to hear how we'd sound if we limited ourselves to this "perfect" song length. Songwriting for PPF was pretty challenging, but fun. I spent most of my time with a stop watch to make sure structures weren't too short or too long. It definitely opened my eyes to a different songwriting perspective.
B: I found the construct inspiring in terms of having a strict limit of time you have to get a musical idea across. It was really interesting to try and get the same sort of emotional response we typically tried to elicit in 7 minutes in half the time. With some songs, it didn't feel like enough time and so I'd strip my ideas down a bit to compensate. With others, it felt spacious and extravagant and like there was endless amounts of space and time in a song to put to good use. It freed me personally from a "longer is better" mindset, and now I feel that an Echodrone song takes exactly as long as it needs to communicate everything we want to communicate to the listener.

Favorite bands/artist?

and does it influence your work?

E: When Echodrone first started, I was really into bands like Lilys and All Natural Lemon and Lime Flavors. I still love those bands, but as I grow older, I'm getting more into the New York school of composers (John Cage, Morton Feldman, Christian Wolff, David Tudor, Earle Brown). Echodrone music doesn't resemble their collective output in any way, but I would like to think that our creative spirit is similar to theirs. Exploring new tones, trying out new song structures, experimenting with concepts like indeterminate music - I feel the New York school has influenced me greatly, at least on recent Echodrone material.

B: Slowdive has been my favorite band since I first heard them in 1991. I have really enjoyed their resurgence and past two studio albums and have seen them live many times since they reformed. I was a relative latecomer to Cocteau Twins, The Chameleons, and the Sound, all of whom I find constantly inspirational. Over the past several years, I have been doing a deeper dive into 70s/80s post-punk and discovering bands that I had missed at the time or had not been exposed to back in the day. I have found a lot of influence in the bass work of bands like A Certain Ratio, The Opposition, The Wake, and others.

A: Other than the above, I enjoy listening to and am influenced by And So I Watch You From Afar, The Mars Volta, Karnivool, LITE, Banks, Joywave, Thundercat, Battles… the list goes on!

Q: What drew you to make music?
E: I was pretty insecure when I was a kid. I was one of the only Asian kids in a small, rural town, so I had always felt different and isolated. It was just really tough to be myself and feel comfortable in my own skin. All of that changed around the time my parents got cable TV (1990 or so?), and I saw MTV. For the first time in my life, I saw people from different ethnicities and cultures coming together to create music/art of all different types. It didn't matter what they looked like or what their background was, they were all accepted as part of a community who's goal was to make awesome music. The thought was really appealing to me – I could play with whoever I wanted to, play whatever I wanted to play, and be accepted regardless of my skin color. Amazing! I got so motivated by this experience that I immediately went out and got a guitar!

B: A passionate interest in music in general, particularly low frequencies. A lot of creative friends who were also interested in creating music.

A: People. A lot of it came from being surrounded by family members that loved listening to and playing various genres of music. And like Brandon said, just being around others that were also interested in creating music. Also, listening to video game and movie/related soundtracks – isn't it awesome how much better things are with music in the background?

Check out echodrone on Social Media:

Instagram: *@echodroneofficial*
Twitter: *@echodrone*
Facebook: *Echodrone: Official Page*
Website: *echodrone.com*

Keys Favorite track!

The Past or the Present: The song has a New Wave/Post Punk psychedelic feel with dreamy vocals, followed by catchy instrumentals!

SEESAW SEAGULL

夏に未練がある人達に捧げます。17歳マインドで作りました。

Dedicated to those who are feeling anxious about summer. I made this with a 17 year old mind.

Seesaw Seagull, a shoegaze/dream pop artist based in Tokyo, Japan created by one man: Kaito Tada. Kaito records his music in the comfort of his room and dropped his first EP *Frost Flower* back in June 16, 2022 on Bandcamp featuring songs:

1. Everybody Wants Some
2. Caged Wagtail
3. Frost Flower
4. Into the night (but you know it's wrong)
5. ソ ー ル シ ッ ク

Kaito Tada was born in Tokyo, and is currently residing there to this day. In the day he is a web engineer, but in his free time he creates music, and frequently goes out to shows. Listening to Seesaw Seagull's Track 'The Myth of Summer' allows the listener a sense of adolescent curiosity towards adventure. Listening to this tack will allow listeners to experience some rite of passage that they must experience to understand the world around them. The B-side track 'Crazy for the Summer' is a perfect follow up, giving a more docile, but digi feeling compared to the grunge-like chord progressions of 'The Myth of Summer'

It's interesting to cross reference Kaito's favorite bands to his music. Some influences I've noticed listening to his E.P Frost Flower were: Weezer, beabadoobee, Radiohead, Snail Mail, DIIV, Asian Kung Fu Generation, The Jesus and Marychain etc.

All listed in his website: seesaw seagull vercel app

His music is available on

Seesaw Seagull Twitter: @seesaw_seagull